

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 12-32, 38-42 and 44-47 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 33-36 and 43 are cancelled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. No new matter is added.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments:

(a) place the application in condition for allowance; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration; and (c) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 1-10, 12-32, 38-42 and 44-47 are allowed.

The Office Action rejects claims 33-36 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,307,899 to Hoppe in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,089,614 to Howland et al. ("Howland") and "Understanding Halftones" by Arah ("Arah"). However, the cancellation of claims 33-36 and 43 renders the rejection moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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